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PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.

Precautionary Measures at Seattle.

Because of the finding of a plague-infected rat in Seattle on August 26, 1911, the city health authorities have undertaken thorough precautionary measures. The block in which the infected rat was found has been carefully inspected, concrete floors have been put in where indicated, and all small wooden buildings have been destroyed. A general cleaning of the premises in surrounding blocks is in progress.

Up to August 26, 1911, no plague-infected rat had been found in Seattle since February 8, 1910, although in the interval rats were caught and examined daily, and the number thus caught and examined amounted to many thousands.

Plague-infected Ground Squirrels Found in California.

During the week ended September 16 a diagnosis of plague was made in 24 squirrels found in Contra Costa County. The squirrels had been obtained as follows:

Nunes ranch, 3 miles east of Stege, Rancho El Sobrante, 3 ground squirrels—2 on August 26 and 1 on September 9, 1911.

Peoples Water Co., $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Stege, Rancho El Sobrante, Brissac tract, 21 ground squirrels—1 on August 22, 1 on August 24, 2 on August 25, 3 on August 26, 1 on August 28, 1 on August 29, 2 on August 30, 1 on August 31, 2 on September 1, 4 on September 2, 2 on September 9, and 1 on September 11, 1911.

Distribution of Poison.

In connection with the making and maintenance of a squirrel-free zone around the cities of California on San Francisco Bay, 6,327 acres of land in Alameda County and 1,550 acres in Contra Costa County were covered with poison during the week ended September 16, 1911.

During the same period 1,000 acres of land in San Joaquin County and 1,308 acres in Stanislaus County were covered with poison for the purpose of eradicating plague foci.

Record of Plague Infection.

Places.	Date of last case of human plague.	Date of last case of rat plague.	Date of last case of squirrel plague.	Total number of rodents found infected since May, 1907.
California:				
Cities—				
San Francisco.....	Jan. 30, 1908....	Oct. 23, 1908....	None.....	398 rats.
Oakland.....	Aug. 9, 1911....	Dec. 1, 1908....	do.....	126 rats.
Berkeley.....	Aug. 27, 1907....	None.....	do.....	None.
Los Angeles.....	Aug. 11, 1908....	do.....	Aug. 21, 1908....	1 squirrel.
Counties				
Alameda (exclusive of Oakland and Berkeley).	Sept. 26, 1909....	Oct. 17, 1909....	Aug. 9, 1911....	108 squirrels, 1 wood rat.
Contra Costa.....	July 21, 1911....	None.....	Sept. 11, 1911....	359 squirrels.
Merced.....	None.....	do.....	July 13, 1911....	5 squirrels.
Monterey.....	do.....	do.....	Aug. 6, 1911....	Do.
San Benito.....	June 5, 1910....	do.....	June 8, 1911....	22 squirrels.
San Joaquin.....	Sept. 18, 1911....	do.....	Aug. 26, 1911....	18 squirrels.
San Luis Obispo.....	None.....	do.....	Jan. 29, 1910....	1 squirrel.
Santa Clara.....	Aug. 23, 1910....	do.....	Oct. 5, 1910....	23 squirrels.
Santa Cruz.....	None.....	do.....	May 17, 1910....	3 squirrels.
Stanislaus.....	do.....	do.....	June 2, 1911....	13 squirrels.
Washington:				
City—				
Seattle.....	Oct. 30, 1907....	Aug. 26, 1911....	None.....	23 rats.

Rats Collected and Examined for Plague Infection.

Places.	Week ended—	Found dead.	Total collected.	Examined.	Found infected.
California:					
Cities—					
Berkeley.....	Sept. 16.....		¹ 129	91	None.
Oakland.....	do.....	30	² 608	421	Do.
San Francisco.....	do.....	37	³ 1,632	1,174	Do.
Washington:					
City—					
Seattle.....	do.....		822	730	

¹ Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 113, *Mus musculus* 16.² Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 481, *Mus musculus* 109, *Mus rattus* 11, *Mus alexandrinus* 7.³ Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 910, *Mus musculus* 337, *Mus rattus* 245, *Mus alexandrinus* 140.

Squirrels Collected and Examined for Plague Infection.

Places.	Week ended—	Shot or trapped.	Found dead.	Examined.	Found infected.
California:					
Counties—					
Alameda.....	Sept. 16.....	64	85	119	None.
Butte.....	do.....	102		91	None.
Colusa.....	do.....	121		86	None.
Contra Costa.....	do.....	75	88	158	24
Glenn.....	do.....	289		190	None.
Kern.....	do.....	41		41	None.
Lake.....	do.....	87		87	None.
Mendocino.....	do.....	184		133	None.
Merced.....	do.....	68		68	None.
San Benito.....	do.....	21		21	None.
San Joaquin.....	do.....	146	10	106	None.
Shasta.....	do.....	43		43	None.
Sonoma.....	do.....	93		88	None.
Stanislaus.....	do.....	203	4	102	None.
Yolo.....	do.....	121		31	None.
Oregon:					
County—					
Jackson.....	do.....	13		13	None.
Total.....		1,671	187	1,377	24

Other Animals Collected and Examined.

Places.	Week ended—	Animals collected.	Examined.	Found infected.
California:				
City—				
San Francisco.....	Sept. 16	1 gopher.....	0	None.
Counties—				
Glenn.....	do....	6 rabbits, 1 wood rat.....	7	None.
Kern.....	do....	2 weasels.....	2	None.
Merced.....	do....	5 rabbits.....	5	None.
San Joaquin.....	do....	2 rabbits.....	2	None.
Stanislaus.....	do....	8 rabbits.....	8	None.
Shasta.....	do....	6 rabbits.....	6	None.
Total.....			30	

SMALLPOX IN THE UNITED STATES.

In the following tables the States indicated by an asterisk are those from which reports of smallpox are received only from certain city, and in some cases county, boards of health. In these States, therefore, the recorded cases and deaths should not be taken as showing the general prevalence of the disease. In the States not marked by an asterisk the reports are received monthly from the State boards of health and include all cases reported throughout the State.

Reports Received During Week Ended Oct. 6, 1911.

Places.	Date.	Cases.	Deaths.	Remarks.
Arizona:				
County—				
Cochise.....	July 1-31.....	7		Aug. 1-31. No cases.
California:				
Counties—				
Alameda.....	Aug. 1-31.....	1		
Fresno.....	do.....	4		
Los Angeles.....	do.....	2		
Sacramento.....	do.....	1		
San Bernardino.....	do.....	2		
San Francisco.....	do.....	2		
San Joaquin.....	do.....	2		
Siskiyou.....	do.....	1		
Tulare.....	do.....	1		
Ventura.....	do.....	1		
Total for State.....		17		
Florida:				
Counties—				
Duval.....	Sept. 10-23.....	8		
Jefferson.....	Sept. 16-23.....	20		
Gadsden.....	Sept. 10-16.....	3		
Madison.....	do.....	2		
Marion.....	do.....	1		
Total for State.....		34		
*Missouri:				
Kansas City.....	Aug. 1-31.....	5	1	
Oregon:				
Counties—				
Linn.....	July 1-31.....	1		
Multnomah.....	do.....	5		
Union.....	do.....	2		
Total for State.....		8		
Cass.....	Aug. 1-31.....	1		
Grant.....	do.....	3		
Josephine.....	do.....	1		
Union.....	do.....	5		
Total for State.....		10		